

Moving Forward with Landscape-scale Conservation: The Northeast Region's Representative Species Workshops

Key Terms and Definitions

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Mission: Working with others to conserve, protect and enhance fish, wildlife, plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people.

Overarching Goal: Sustaining fish, wildlife and plants entrusted to the Service and the landscapes they depend on now and into the future.

Conservation objective: Characterizing and maintain functional landscapes capable of supporting self-sustaining fish, wildlife and plant populations.

Management objective: Local, measurable conservation delivery-based objectives that support the conservation objective.

Functional landscapes: Defined as lands and waters with the properties and elements required to support desirable populations of fish and wildlife, while also providing human society with desired goods and services, including food, fiber, water, energy and living space.

Self-sustaining populations: Fish, wildlife and plants that are “self-maintained” at desired population objectives (abundance, recruitment rates) through landscape conditions; thus, foregoing more drastic conservation interventions such as captive breeding and reintroduction programs.

Surrogate species: Defined by Caro (2010) and adopted for use of this approach is “species that are used to represent other species or aspects of the environment.”

Representative species: A representative species is one that, because of its habitat use, ecosystem function, management response, typifies lifecycle or habitat requirements for a larger group of species.

